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We'd like to say a **big thank you** to everyone who has contributed to our survey about *OxfordMedSci News* over the past two months, we received over 350 responses and will be spending the coming weeks analysing the results. We will use your helpful responses and comments to make sure that *OxfordMedSci News* meets your needs going forward and is both a useful and enjoyable addition to your inboxes.

Do you have news or events that you would like to promote? Or would you like your lab/centre/unit to feature in a future issue of Lab Talk? For further information, please contact

communications@medsci.ox.ac.uk

Sign up [here](#) to receive a weekly digest of all events/seminars/talks/workshops taking place across the Division.

Copy deadline for next issue: 09:00, Monday 1 February. Delivery date: Monday 8 February



GET INVOLVED IN OXFORDSHIRE SCIENCE FESTIVAL IN 2016

We're pleased to announce that the call for applications to take part in Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 as part of the University of Oxford's principal sponsorship scheme is now open, deadline noon 25 January 2016.

The University of Oxford is pleased to be a Principal Sponsor of Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 (OSF). The festival is an excellent opportunity to showcase your research, inspire the younger generation, engage with the local community and raise debate on the impact of science on society. In 2016 the festival will take place from **Thursday 23 June to Sunday 3 July**.

As a Principal Sponsor of the OSF, the University has secured 15 stalls (which can be indoor or outdoor) and 7 programme slots for events, talks and debates that are being offered to researchers through this competitive process.

Researchers from all disciplines are invited to apply.

[Read more...](#)



SIXTY SECONDS WITH...

In this issue, we talk to Naomi Gibson, our new Divisional Public Engagement Coordinator. Naomi joined the divisional office team in December 2015 in this newly created role, and brings with her a wealth of experience as well as a passion for engaging the public with research.

Tell us a little about your role

I am responsible for coordinating the public engagement and outreach activity that takes place across the Medical Sciences Division; seeking out new opportunities to showcase MSD research; and ensuring MSD research is represented in University-wide engagement activities, such as the [European Researchers Night](#) or national science festivals.

[Read more...](#)



BOARD BUSINESS

In this regular feature, Dr David Bryan, Divisional Secretary, provides a summary of the Medical Sciences Board's activity

At its meeting on 8 December 2015, the Medical Sciences Board:

- (1) received and discussed a report on Athena SWAN developments, noting the likelihood that theme leaders within the forthcoming Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) application would have to be drawn from departments with Athena SWAN silver awards and the need for effective long-term planning for preparing to retain (and if possible improve on) the silver awards;
- (2) received a report from the Board's Educational Policy and Standards Committee, approving minor amendments to the committee's terms of reference and composition, noting proposals for major developments in postgraduate taught course provision within the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and their possible implications for student number planning, and agreeing that Professor Paterson should convene a small group to consider the future of the Doctor of Medicine degree;

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IT NEWS

In this issue:

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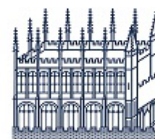
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Bodleian Libraries
UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

OPPORTUNITIES AND UPDATES

Important Updates

RCUK & CRUK Researchfish Outputs Collection 2016 All PIs and students who are in receipt of funding from the Research Councils, and all PIs who hold CRUK funding, will be expected to submit a comprehensive record of their outputs on Researchfish. Sanctions for non-compliance will apply and include stopping current grant monies to individual PIs and at University level, and preventing further applications being submitted.

Changes to IT Services Out-of-Hours Support Telephone support now available 24 hours a day.

Get your ORCID iD As well as being a requirement for Wellcome Trust funding, having an ORCID iD now brings extra benefits

Working together to have a Green Impact in Medical Sciences

New booklet on opportunities for collaboration with the University of Oxford

Funding Opportunities

Wellcome Trust ISSF Deadline: Midday, Monday 25 January

Nuffield Oxford Hospitals Fund Deadline: Sunday 31 January

University of Oxford Jill and Herbert Hunt Travelling Scholarship 2016 Funding for University of Oxford Medical School graduates to support travel abroad for clinical study or research. Deadline: Friday 19 February

Oxford – Celgene 2016 Translational Research Fellowships Launch Meeting Tuesday 23 February, Kennedy Institute, Old Road Campus

Engagement Opportunities

Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 Call for Applications, Seed Funding available Deadline: 12 noon, Friday 25 January

FameLab is open! The search is on for new voices in science communication. Oxford heats: 7pm Thursday 21 and Monday 25 January, St Aldate's Tavern

Bristol Science Film Festival and Competition Submit a science film! Deadline Monday 1 February

STFC Public Engagement Fellowships Funding available for researchers working in STFC research areas, deadline 25 February.

Volunteer Opportunities

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Ethics Committee Volunteer external member sought, deadline 31 January.

A bit tense or worried?

Vaccines Against Salmonella Typhi You are invited to take part in a study to investigate how different vaccines prevent infection with Salmonella Typhi.

Healthy male volunteers needed for project investigating how your body handles sugars and fats

Volunteers wanted! Research Project: Perceptual Capacity in the Classroom

Do you stutter? Researchers at the Department of Experimental Psychology University of Oxford are seeking men who stutter for a Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) study.

Healthy volunteers aged 18–45 needed For a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant Bupropion on the processing of emotions

Towards the prevention of RSV: A major cause of infant death A vaccine study involving healthy adults

Volunteers needed for study of the genetics of social brain function

Other Items of Interest

Frith Photography Prize Oxford Medical School Gazette Photography Prize, deadline 14 February

MedComms Careers event Thursday 14 January, Medical Sciences Teaching Centre

People Are Messy A new play about patient and public involvement in research. Wednesday 10 & Friday 12 February, JR Hospital

Oxford 3Rs Research Day Friday 26 February. Registration deadline Monday 1 February 2016.

7th Annual Oxford Neuroscience Symposium Wednesday 23 March

New website for Centre for Personalised Medicine

Ambitious Futures: Graduate programme for university leadership Applications now open, deadline Wednesday 20 January

AllTrials Campaign Find out more, watch video, and sign the petition

Cambridge Amgen Scholars Programme Opportunity for undergraduate students, deadline Monday 1 February 2016.

AND FINALLY...FROM PURE MATHS TO WEB SCIENCE: A TALE OF MANY ABSTRACTIONS



[Professor Dame Wendy Hall DBE FRS FREng](#), Executive Director of the Web Science Institute at the University of Southampton will be delivering the **Julia Bodmer Memorial Lecture** entitled *'From Pure Maths to Web Science: A Tale of Many Abstractions'* All are welcome to attend.

Date: Monday 8 February 2016, 17.00

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Medical Sciences Teaching Centre, South Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PL

Sixty Seconds With...

Naomi Gibson, Divisional Public Engagement Co-ordinator

In this issue, we talk to Naomi Gibson, our new Divisional Public Engagement Coordinator. Naomi joined the divisional office team in December 2015 in this newly created role, and brings with her a wealth of experience as well as a passion for engaging the public with research.



Tell us a little about your role

I am responsible for coordinating the public engagement and outreach activity that takes place across the Medical Sciences Division; seeking out new opportunities to showcase MSD research; and ensuring MSD research is represented in University-wide engagement activities, such as the [European Researchers Night](#) or national science festivals.

And why is what you do important?

Research is an important part of the UK's culture but people outside of academia usually aren't aware of the relevance of what happens in universities to their lives. I believe that everyone's life can be enriched by having an increased awareness of even just a fraction of the new knowledge and understanding that stems from research. Also, public engagement continues to rise up the policy agenda, with most funders now requiring research activities to include some form of public engagement and the potential for another REF, and its requirements around impact. I hope through my role I can support research groups to excel in these areas, ensuring that the public engagement activities in the MSD match the Division's reputation for academic excellence.

What's currently at the top of your to do list?

Getting to know the departments and units, and all of the fantastic and inspiring research that goes on in MSD.

How did you get to where you are today?

Really, I fell in to working in public engagement! My first job out of University, which I took because it sounded interesting rather than because it was my chosen career path, was at the [Royal Institution of Great Britain](#). I was lucky that I fell in to a job that I loved and I had a fantastic six years working there on a lots of events to engage families and adults with a wide range of science topics, including the famous Royal Institution Christmas Lectures, which MSD's very own Professor Alison Woollard [delivered in 2013](#). After a stint working on community engagement projects for the London 2012 Olympics, I spent the last two years working on engaging the public with research, this time at the [British Academy](#), the UK's National Academy for Humanities and Social Sciences. As well as running the Academy's own events programme, I also worked on several national public engagement projects, including the 2015 survey of [Factors Affecting Researchers Engagement with the Public](#).

What makes you get up in the morning?

Practically I'm not the best in the morning, but ultimately I love learning new things. Because of this I've always felt very privileged to work in public engagement - I get to spend my day talking to researchers who are passionate about, and world leaders in, their field and I find out so much interesting stuff! What could be better?

What do you like to do to relax?

Well...I'm trying to get my piano playing back up to scratch after a 15 year gap where I didn't play at all...and I like to try to do something creative: I've been learning upholstery, although that isn't the most practical hobby as it takes up lots of space!

If you have any public engagement queries, please contact Naomi Gibson at naomi.gibson@medsci.ox.ac.uk

Board Business

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- (1) received and discussed a report on Athena SWAN developments, noting the likelihood that theme leaders within the forthcoming Biomedical Research Centre (BRC) application would have to be drawn from departments with Athena SWAN silver awards and the need for effective long-term planning for preparing to retain (and if possible improve on) the silver awards;
- (2) received a report from the Board's Educational Policy and Standards Committee, approving minor amendments to the committee's terms of reference and composition, noting proposals for major developments in postgraduate taught course provision within the Nuffield Department of Primary Care Health Sciences and their possible implications for student number planning, and agreeing that Professor Paterson should convene a small group to consider the future of the Doctor of Medicine degree;
- (3) received a report from the Board's Finance and Physical Capital Committee, noting the ongoing discussion of how best to meet the commitment to the Wellcome Trust to match at least 20 per cent of the funding received from the Trust for studentships on various doctoral training programmes and agreeing (a) that the materials budget of the Bodleian Healthcare Libraries be increased each line in line with increases in electronic journal subscriptions, estimated at 5 per cent, (b) that a purchase order be placed for cryo-electron microscopes, the purchase costs to be underwritten from divisional reserves but subject to report in due course as to the success of fundraising efforts and (c) to support in principle the institutional commitments outlined in draft letters to the Wellcome Trust in connection with an early stage of application for Wellcome Trust Centre bids;
- (4) received and noted a report from the Board's Information Technology Committee;
- (5) received and noted a report from the Board's Research Committee and agreed to thank the Registrar for his work on the University's behalf in dealing with matters relating to the conduct of research under the Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act;
- (6) received and discussed a note on the Government Consultation: "Fulfilling our Potential: Teaching Excellence, Social Mobility and Student Choice" and the review of the UK research Councils by Sir Paul Nurse;
- (7) received an oral report from the Head of Division which included briefing on (a) the preparation for a BRC Away Day in January, noting the need for a strategy designed to maximise the amount of NIHR funding allocated to Oxford; (b) a strategic review of clinical services by the Oxford University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust within which the issue of specialist referrals would necessarily be addressed and there would be a need for as close an alignment as possible of clinical and academic needs; (c) a proposal being explored informally for a potential development in the provision of private clinical services, using the University's name.

Athena SWAN News

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News

Royal Society announces new Athena Prize Diversity Award

The Royal Society, the UK's national academy of science, has today announced a new national award which recognises individuals and teams in the UK research community who have contributed towards the advancement of diversity in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) in their institutions and organisations. The award aims to inspire innovation and leadership in diversity issues.



The Royal Society Athena Prize, to be awarded biennially, will join the Society's prestigious set of medals and awards announced each summer.

Further information on the selection criteria and nominations process to be provided shortly.

Speaking about the award, Sir Paul Nurse, President of the Royal Society, said, "It gives me great pleasure to be able to announce the establishment of the new Royal Society Athena Prize."

"I would like to encourage everyone in the research community to look around their institutions and organisations and think of who they might nominate for the Athena Prize. Do you know someone who has set up an innovative project that is contributing to the advancement of diversity in science, someone who is persistent in the face of adversity and limited funds, someone who is inspirational and has kick-started a culture change and should be recognised for their efforts? If so, we'd like to hear from you when we open up nominations for Royal Society Athena Prize in early 2016."

The top project will receive a medal plus a cash prize of £5,000 and runners-up will receive a cash prize of £1,000. Prizes will be presented at the Royal Society's annual autumn [diversity conference](#), where the winners will talk about their projects.

The Royal Society is committed to promoting and increasing diversity in UK STEM. A diverse and inclusive scientific workforce draws from the widest range of backgrounds, perspectives and experiences thereby maximising innovation and creativity in science for the benefit of humanity.

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Transnational gender equality scheme proposed

GENDER-NET, a project funded by the European Commission to address the common challenges still facing European research institutions in achieving gender equality, has recommended the development of a transnational awards scheme.

The recommendations follow research undertaken by the international GENDER-NET project partners (of which ECU is one) into eight gender equality award schemes across Europe, and Australia.

The Athena SWAN charter was found to be the only award scheme to be effective at creating structural change for gender equality in research institutions. It was also recognised that Athena SWAN's methods and processes allow for transferability to other countries.

[GENDER-NET analysis report: award schemes, gender equality and structural change](#)

[GENDER-NET](#)

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Equality in HE: statistical reports 2015

Using data from the Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA), the report aims to focus attention on areas where the higher education sector needs to act to achieve an inclusive culture for all staff and students.

This year's data provides institutions with key benchmarking data plus broader significant food for thought in how they continue to tackle inequality.

[Equality in HE: statistical reports 2015](#)

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Race Equality Newsletter and mailing list

If you're interested in race equality at the University and would like to keep updated about what's going on, sign up to the Equality and Diversity Unit's mailing list by sending a blank email to race-equality-network-subscribe@maillist.admin.ox.ac.uk. The EDU sends out the Race Equality Newsletter once a fortnight during term time, providing a round-up of events, seminars, lectures, and other initiatives and activities to do with race at Oxford. The mailing list will also be used to keep you up to date with our progress towards the Race Equality Charter Mark.

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The OxFEST mentoring program

The OxFEST mentoring program is dedicated to supporting both undergraduate and graduate women in STEM.

It offers a platform for a support network of inspiring mentors, mentees and peers that will simultaneously help members with career decisions while offering professional development opportunities to enhance their current academic performance.

A continuously expanding cohort of mentors includes people at various stages of their careers and from various academic backgrounds. The programme helps to get the mentoring relationship started and offers advice on how to develop and maintain the relationship to get the best possible mentoring experience.

Why mentoring?

Because no one does it alone. Seeking advice from others is important for professional and personal development. Studies show that women in STEM with mentors report higher career commitment and promotion rates, have increased self-esteem and lower work-family stress.

"Mentoring is to support and encourage people to manage their own learning in order that they may maximise their potential, develop their skills, improve their performance and become the person they want to be". Eric Parslow, from the Oxford School of Coaching and Mentoring

Being a mentee

There are no set rules for what to seek guidance on from your mentor. Whether you would like advice on your course of study, attaining a healthy work-life balance, useful extracurricular activities, and choice of career path or if you would like an independent person's view on your strengths and weaknesses in general or in relation to a particular job or industry, a mentor can be of great help.

Becoming a mentor

We encourage our members to become mentors themselves to support other students in their academic and personal progression. Getting involved in this side of mentoring as well gives you a great experience in supporting others professionally.

Sign up

Sign up before 22nd January at: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1BY8jBlovkOW-lWaypx3U03R62hs7Z_JDFHpZ7Esg1ak/viewform.

At sign up you will be asked to fill in your details and choose if you want to be a mentee, mentor or both.

Funding Opportunities

Royal Society Dorothy Hodgkin Research Fellowships

This [scheme](#) for outstanding scientists in the UK at an early stage of their research career who require a flexible working pattern due to personal circumstances such as parenting or caring responsibilities or health issues is now open.

Deadline: 12 January 2016.

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Events

Women of Achievement: The Oxford Diversity Lectures 2016

Dame Sally Davies, Chief Medical Officer for England, will speak on 'Antimicrobial-Resistance - The Global Problem'

The Oxford Women of Achievement lecture series showcases and celebrates women's achievement and leadership across a wide range of sectors. It is funded by the Vice-Chancellor's Diversity fund, and will be hosted by Professor Louise Richardson. The lecture will be followed

by a reception.

A small number of places will be available free of charge in an onsite crèche during this event.

For more information and to book [click here](#).

Date: Wednesday 17 February 2016

Time: 5.30pm

Venue: Maths Institute, Radcliffe Observatory Quarter

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OxFEST's 5th annual conference – Signposts and Pathways: How to get ahead in your STEM career?

www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/oxfest-signposts-and-pathways-2016-tickets-19499030124

Facebook page: www.facebook.com/oxfest5thannualconference/timeline

OxFEST would like to invite you to the 5th annual conference aiming to inspire and promote women in STEM. This year, we hope to provide an opportunity for people of all career stages in STEM subjects to explore various career pathways in STEM and to prepare themselves on the journey to success. If you are the kind of person who would like to get informed and get ready for your STEM career, this is an event not to be missed.

The day will consist of talks from prominent speakers about their career stories, interactive workshops and a panel discussion centred on which career options are available for you as an undergraduate or a young researcher, what steps to take next and how to maximise your potential and achieve your career goals within STEM. There will also be plenty of opportunities to network and share and discuss experiences with both peers and STEM's most prominent figures.

This event promises to be filled with exciting activities that will open your eyes to the range of roles of women in the scientific world and will present an exciting opportunity for you to be inspired, acquire vital skills, widen your network of connections and be motivated to go out and pursue your goals and careers.

Date: Saturday 5 March, 2016

Time: 9:00 – 18:00

Location: Maths Institute, Andrew Wiles Building

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Articles and Resources

Making media stars of women academics

The Guardian online, 06/01/2015, Louise Tickle

While male experts still dominate the airwaves, a growing number of female researchers are getting themselves trained to take on the media challenge. Getting across why your work matters is particularly important for mid-career female academics, says Imperial College London's Dr Victoria Salem, because they are trying to emerge from the shadow of their more senior – and often male – research leads. Women in their mid-30s, who are often mothers too, are sometimes overlooked for high-profile media opportunities by well-meaning colleagues trying not to pile on extra pressure. But if a female academic isn't proactive in building her profile, she ends up 'being considered a very safe pair of hands and an excellent scientist, but not necessarily a leader'.

<http://www.theguardian.com/higher-education-network/2016/jan/06/making-media-stars-of-women-academics>

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IT News

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Freshers Survey Report 2015

Over 800 freshers completed the IT Services Freshers Survey this year. Their responses on some 30 questions have now been analysed and the report published to help IT Services and others around the University keep informed on student's expectations, experiences and equipment.

Highlights include:

- 29% of freshers brought tablets
- Students bring an average of 2.8 internet enabled devices each; some bring as many as 9
- 15% of research postgraduates have no anti-virus software
- Almost all students bring a smartphone
- Using Twitter (reading and/or tweeting) is down for the first time in several years
- 65% of freshers follow the University on Facebook

Read the full report at <http://www.it.ox.ac.uk/about/reports>.

For further information and queries, please contact communications@it.ox.ac.uk.

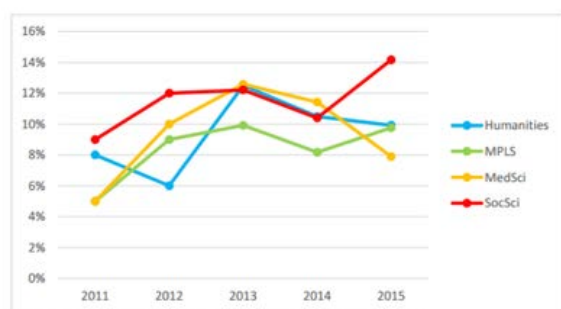


Figure 14 Percentage of respondents with no anti-virus software by division

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Latest ChemBio Hub Tool Developments

There are a number of recent improvements to the ChemBio Hub set of tools. If any of these tools are of interest to your research effort, or you have suggestions for additional functionality please do get in touch.

The screenshot displays the ChemBio Hub interface. On the left, there is a chemical structure search tool with a search bar and a 'Non-Structure search' button. On the right, there are search filters and options like 'MILES or SMILES' and 'Enable/Disable archive mode'. Below the search tool is a table of results with columns for 'Structure', 'Miles ID', 'Project', 'Custom Identifier', 'Name and Synonyms', 'Date of Synthesis', 'Storage Conditions', 'Keywords', 'Appropriately Classified', 'Purity (%)', and 'References'.

InventoryReg allows you to manage lab stock levels, including plasmids, antibodies, chemical inventory and consumables. The web-based application provides secure access for the relevant team members. Recent improvements to the search capability have been very well received by users – making finding of relevant entries much more user-friendly.

ChemReg is a valuable tool for any group needing to collate detailed information about the molecules their laboratory creates or uses. ChemReg records key characteristics and potential applications and includes the ability to deposit details of novel compounds in public repositories in a simple, supported process if needed.

AssayReg provides a consistent means of recording all relevant data for a given assay. It supports uploading of data from a file or by direct

input, with dynamic search functionality which then allowing users to view all relevant data to which they have access. We have recently been simplifying how AssayReg is set up for users to ensure consistency of data capture.

If you are interested in finding out more about how these applications can help your research effort, take a look at the ChemBio Hub website <https://chembiohub.ox.ac.uk/> or contact Adam Hendry, the project scientist, for more details – adam.hendry@chembiohub.ox.ac.uk

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IT Courses – January – March Schedule

The [IT Services IT Learning Programme \(ITLP\)](#) offers over 200 different IT courses that can help you with your studies, research, and future careers. From fundamental courses in the use of Word and Endnote through to programming, database design and statistics. The schedule for Hilary term is now available at <http://courses.it.ox.ac.uk>, and already there are bookings for the most popular courses – sign up now to avoid being on a waiting list!

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Free 24/7 access to online courses for all University members



Over 3,250 University members have signed up to the lynda.com library of online courses. If you haven't yet started to make use of the library have a look at <http://courses.it.ox.ac.uk/lynda>. You can interact with the courses on-line, or download them to your PC or mobile device for off-line viewing. All you need are your Oxford Single Sign On details.

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Now available – *The American Journal of Clinical Pathology and Arthroscopy*

We are pleased to announce that full-text access to *The American Journal of Clinical Pathology* (<http://ajcp.oxfordjournals.org/>) and to *Arthroscopy: The Journal of Arthroscopic & Related Surgery* (<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/journal/07498063/32>) is now available to all members of the University. Both titles are now available via our catalogue SOLO and directly from the links above.

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Research Skills Toolkits

These 2 hour workshops introduce key software and online tools for your research, hone your searching and information skills and introduce you to our subject specialists. Some of the topics on offer include:

- Finding articles, papers, conferences and theses
- Keeping up to date with emerging research
- Using Endnote to manage your references
- Finding and manipulating images
- Finding highly cited journals and measuring research impact

The next sessions for the MSD will take place from 10.00 to 12.00 at IT Services on Banbury Road on Wednesday 20th January and on Thursday 21st January. Book at <http://courses.it.ox.ac.uk/detail/STQA>.

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Open Access workshops and drop-in sessions coming up

Training sessions

iSkills 'Open Access Oxford – what's happening?' session will run extra slots this term. It covers the basics about OA, how to handle funder requirements such as RCUK and Wellcome Trust (and block grants), and the all-important 'Act on Acceptance' for open access and the next REF (<http://courses.it.ox.ac.uk/detail/TZW7>).

When: Thursday 21st January, 11am–12pm; Thursday 18th February, 2–3pm; Tuesday 1st March, 11am–12pm.

Where: Radcliffe Science Library, Parks Road.

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Drop-in surgeries in the city centre

ORA and ORA Data staff will again be holding their weekly drop-ins to provide one-to-one help with all things Open Access and Research Data between 11.30–13.30 every Monday of term (18th January – 29th February 2016) at the Centre for Digital Scholarship on the first floor of the [Weston Library](#).

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Local support

Library staff are also very happy to come and talk in MSD departments to groups and individuals about Open Access. Please contact

owen.coxall@bodleian.ox.ac.uk (clinical depts.) or karine.barker@bodleian.ox.ac.uk (non-clinical depts.) if you'd like one of our team to come and talk to you or your colleagues. You can also get help and advice from our open access helpline openaccess@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

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3D printing

December 2015 marked the one year anniversary of our [3D printing service](#) at the RSL! We have printed a lot of interesting projects over the last year from enzymes to brains to lab equipment, and not to mention a lot of undergraduate heads!

So far our printers have been printing for over 1100 hours and we have processed over 350 job requests. A big thank you to everyone on the 3D Printing Team who has helped make the service so successful over the last year!

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Welcome to Edina Pillok

BHCL are pleased to welcome Edina Pillok as Collections Manager at Bodleian Health Care Libraries. Edina brings with her a wealth of experience of working in library services in the UK and elsewhere in Europe.

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Focus group sessions

Could you spare an hour to to share your thoughts on ways to improve our services, collections, and spaces to help you in your studies and research?

We're planning several focus groups with different groups in the Medical Science Division over the next few months and we'll be contacting departments "up the hill" and "down the hill" over the next few weeks looking for people to take part. Please keep an eye out for more information, or if you'd like to register your interest please contact us at hcl-enquiries@bodleian.ox.ac.uk

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LibGuides upgrade

You may already be familiar with our [LibGuides](#), which provide information on key resources for particular subjects, as well as guidance on searching databases, selecting and using reference management software, and depositing in ORA, among many other topics.

New improved versions will become available from 13 January, providing enhanced navigation within guides, a cleaner design and better display on mobile devices. You may notice some changes, but all the information and links in the old versions should still be there. If you have any problems, or notice anything not working, please [contact us](#)

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New fines policy

From now on readers may not owe more than £10 in total to the Bodleian Libraries in fines. An unpaid balance of over £10 will result in an automatic block on further borrowing or renewals in any of the Bodleian Libraries. It is possible to settle library fines in cash at any circulating library which imposes fines, no matter which library charged the fine.

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Opportunities and Updates

Important Updates

RCUK & CRUK Researchfish Outputs Collection 2016 All PIs and students who are in receipt of funding from the Research Councils, and all PIs who hold CRUK funding, will be expected to submit a comprehensive record of their outputs on Researchfish. Sanctions for non-compliance will apply and include stopping current grant monies to individual PIs and at University level, and preventing further applications being submitted.

Changes to IT Services Out-of-Hours Support Telephone support now available 24 hours a day.

Get your ORCID iD As well as being a requirement for Wellcome Trust funding, having an ORCID iD now brings extra benefits

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Social Sciences and Humanities Research Ethics Committee Volunteer external member sought, deadline 31 January.

A bit tense or worried?

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Healthy volunteers aged 18–45 needed For a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant Bupropion on the processing of emotions

Towards the prevention of RSV: A major cause of infant death A vaccine study involving healthy adults

Volunteers needed for study of the genetics of social brain function

Other Items of Interest

Frith Photography Prize Oxford Medical School Gazette Photography Prize, deadline 14 February

MedComms Careers event Thursday 14 January, Medical Sciences Teaching Centre

People Are Messy A new play about patient and public involvement in research. Wednesday 10 & Friday 12 February, JR Hospital

Oxford 3Rs Research Day Friday 26 February. Registration deadline Monday 1 February 2016.

7th Annual Oxford Neuroscience Symposium Wednesday 23 March

New website for Centre for Personalised Medicine

Ambitious Futures: Graduate programme for university leadership Applications now open, deadline Wednesday 20 January

AllTrials Campaign Find out more, watch video, and sign the petition

Cambridge Amgen Scholars Programme Opportunity for undergraduate students, deadline Monday 1 February 2016.

And Finally...From Pure Maths to Web Science: A Tale of Many Abstractions



Professor Dame Wendy Hall DBE FRS FEng, Executive Director of the Web Science Institute at the University of Southampton will be delivering the **Julia Bodmer Memorial Lecture** entitled '*From Pure Maths to Web Science: A Tale of Many Abstractions*' All are welcome to attend.

Date: Monday 8 February 2016, 17.00

Venue: Lecture Theatre, Medical Sciences Teaching Centre, South Parks Road, Oxford, OX1 3PL

Get involved in Oxfordshire Science Festival in 2016

We're pleased to announce that the call for applications to take part in Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 as part of the University of Oxford's principal sponsorship scheme is now open, deadline noon 25 January 2016.

The University of Oxford is pleased to be a Principal Sponsor of Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 (OSF). The festival is an excellent opportunity to showcase your research, inspire the younger generation, engage with the local community and raise debate on the impact of science on society. In 2016 the festival will take place from **Thursday 23 June to Sunday 3 July**.

As a Principal Sponsor of the OSF, the University has secured 15 stalls (which can be indoor or outdoor) and 7 programme slots for events, talks and debates that are being offered to researchers through this competitive process.

Researchers from all disciplines are invited to apply:

- a) to take part in the festival (e.g. hosting a stall, event, talk, debate, etc.)
- b) for small grants to support the development of research engagement activities to be delivered as part of the Oxfordshire Science Festival programme if required

All science and science-related research areas are welcomed and can include science, social science and exploring the societal impacts and history of science.

Full details about how to participate and the application form are on the [Oxford Sparks website](#).

Please direct questions to [Naomi Gibson](#), [Lesley Paterson](#) and [Michaela Livingstone](#).



Important Updates

RCUK & CRUK Researchfish Outputs Collection 2016

All PIs and students who are in receipt of funding from the Research Councils, and all PIs who hold CRUK funding, will be expected to submit a comprehensive record of their outputs on Researchfish. Sanctions for non-compliance will apply and include stopping current grant monies to individual PIs and at University level, and preventing further applications being submitted.

Collection Dates: 1/2/16 – 10/3/16

The Research Councils and Cancer Research UK (CRUK) are running their next research outputs collection round in early 2016. The submission window will be open on the Researchfish system from 1/2/16 to 10/3/16. During this time all PIs and students who are in receipt of funding from the Research Councils, and all PIs who hold CRUK funding, will be expected to submit a comprehensive record of their outputs on Researchfish. *(NB requirement to report outputs for PIs is: life-time of an award and 5 years thereafter; and for students: lifetime of studentship and 3 years thereafter.)*

Sanctions for non-compliance

- Sanctions will apply to PIs who do not complete their submission by 10/3/16. *(Sanctions will not apply to students.)*
- RCUK policy – **from 2016 sanctions apply across all research councils.** Current grant monies held by a PI are stopped and PI is prevented from making further applications until a submission is made.
- CRUK policy – grant monies stopped at institutional level if the University submission rate is below 90% of CRUK funded PIs (reinstated once the 90% threshold is reached).

Further information: on [RCUK](#) and [CRUK](#) sanctions policies.

Communications with PIs and Students

RCUK and CRUK have already contacted the PIs and students in your Department directly, both to alert them to the forthcoming collection and if appropriate to issue login email links to their record on the Researchfish system. So all relevant PIs and students should be aware of their requirement to report. PIs/Students will receive further emails direct from their funders as the outputs collection progresses.

Data checking/queries

The list of PIs and grants included in the 2016 exercise will be circulated by Research Services (RS) to relevant Departments, early in the New Year, who will be asked to check the status of PIs and notify RS of PIs who have left the institution, who are on maternity leave or long-term sick leave, or those who have retired. PIs in these categories are either removed from Oxford's compliance figures or given a one year exemption. Changes to PI status will be communicated back to RCUK by RS. (Further information about this will be circulated to Depts at the time.)

(NB: CRUK and RCUK student data has already been checked – however some additional issues may arise during the collection where we need to contact Depts. for advice about a particular PI or student.)

Interface availability

The University subscribes to the institutional interface of the Researchfish system. This is an administrative view of the database and allows monitoring and reporting of the information entered *(please note: it does not allow data entry on behalf of PIs or students)*. We would like to make the interface available to Departments who wish to use it to monitor their rates of compliance, and view or generate reports from the information entered downstream. Departments who would like to take up this option should confirm the name and email of the person to be given access to researchfishoxford@admin.ox.ac.uk also stating the Departmental Unit(s) (name and Dept. code) to which this applies.

Oxford Researchfish Support Team

Research Services have established a support team to help answer any questions that you might have about the collection. Please use the generic email address for the team in the first instance, which is:

researchfishoxford@admin.ox.ac.uk

Supporting information about the Researchfish collection can be found at:

<http://www.admin.ox.ac.uk/researchsupport/sponsors/researchfish/>

Changes to IT Services Out-of-Hours Support

Telephone support now available 24 hours a day.

As part of the continuing development of central IT support, IT Services has changed the out-of-hours help available to University staff, students, and other users from 23 December 2015. Telephone support has been extended to provide 24-hour assistance every day of the year, including weekends, bank and public holidays

and University closures. This replaces the evening helpdesk that was available at our Banbury Road offices between 5.30pm and 8.30pm on weekdays.

For more information please visit the [IT Services website](#) or contact [Ian Teasdale](#).



Get your ORCID iD

As well as being a requirement for Wellcome Trust funding, having an ORCID iD now brings extra benefits. From August 2015 the Wellcome Trust requires lead applicants to provide an ORCID identifier when submitting a grant application.

An ORCID is a unique researcher identifier you keep throughout your life, wherever you are. ORCID is increasingly used by funders and publishers globally to link researchers with their publications and grants.

[Open Access Oxford](#) have recently launched the [ORCID at Oxford service](#) which enables University of Oxford researchers to create an ORCID iD with verified University affiliation.

And now, with Auto-Update of ORCID profiles, there hasn't been a better time to get your ORCID iD. Auto-Update will automatically update your ORCID profile as soon as any manuscripts or datasets linked to your ORCID iD are published, as long as you follow these [simple steps](#) listed on the ORCID blog.

Please sign up for your ORCID through the [ORCID at Oxford service](#), to get a University-affiliated account.



Working together to have a Green Impact in Medical Sciences



Green Impact is an environmental accreditation scheme that brings together staff and students across the University to play an active role in improving the sustainable practices of their office, building or department. At the end of the year teams, students and management come together – joined by the Vice-Chancellor – to celebrate and recognise their contribution to making a positive impact at the University.

The Green Impact teams are supported by the members of Environmental Sustainability, based within Estates Services, to work through an easy online checklist of actions. The online criteria break down sustainability into manageable and achievable tasks, and are designed to adapt to all workspace environments – from a typical office through to a scientific laboratory.

Teams also have the opportunity to gain additional points by implementing innovative workplace schemes to improve environmental impact.

Members of the Environmental Sustainability team run training events, and coordinate resources and networking to help share knowledge and best practice across the University.

Working to achieve a more positive environmental impact is particularly

important within the Medical Sciences Division. This is because laboratory and medical buildings often have proportionally higher impacts than other types of University buildings. The University of Oxford has an ambitious target to reduce its annual carbon emissions by 33% by the academic year 2020/2021 – and a vital part of our progress towards this target is educating and encouraging staff to adopt energy-saving behaviour.

Carolyne Culver, Head of Communications in the MPLS Divisional Office, said *'Nine members of staff are involved in Green Impact in the MPLS Divisional Office, and the Environmental Sustainability team has supported us throughout the process.'*

'The online workbook, listing all the things you need to do to get points, is straightforward to use and we're making real progress. It's been a good bonding exercise too!'

Setting up a new team, or joining an existing one is quick and easy, with a small time commitment through the year.

There is still plenty of time to get involved: Green Impact actions for this year will continue taking place until the end of April, before the 2016 Green Impact Awards ceremony, which will be held on Wednesday 15 June in the Blavatnik School of Government. We hope to see many of you there!

If you are interested in getting involved further information is available below:

- Read more about the Green Impact programme here: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/environment/getinvolved/greenimpact/#d.en.216645
- Email the Environmental Sustainability team at sustainability@admin.ox.ac.uk with any questions.
- Find out more about upcoming Events and Workshops from the Environmental Sustainability team here: www.admin.ox.ac.uk/estates/ourservices/environment/getinvolved/eventsandtraining/
- Follow the Environmental Sustainability team on twitter [@OxfordEnvSust](https://twitter.com/OxfordEnvSust) or like their Facebook page here fb.com/OxfordEnvSust.



New booklet on opportunities for collaboration with the University of Oxford

The International Strategy team have produced a booklet: "Opportunities for collaboration with the University of Oxford – an overview." Designed with both internal and external audiences in mind, it summarises the most common ways that we can develop connections with other universities. The mechanisms described include bringing students to Oxford during the summer or term time, sending Oxford students to the partner university, sending/receiving academics, and facilitating research partnerships.

You may find it useful if you engage in conversation with current or potential partner universities, and you should feel free to share it with contacts expressing an interest in linking with Oxford. You can obtain hard copies by emailing international.strategy@admin.ox.ac.uk, and you will find an electronic copy available at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/about/international-oxford>

Funding Opportunities

Wellcome Trust ISSF

Deadline: Midday, Monday 25 January

The next call for the Wellcome Trust Institutional Strategic Support Fund (ISSF) is now open. The Wellcome Trust ISSF is open to all academic members of staff across the whole University. The ISSF Committee especially welcomes cross divisional bids.

The fund supports work in Wellcome Trust research areas that will:

- Assist the University in developing its research strategy across Departments and Divisions.
- Encourage new inter-departmental synergies, cross-disciplinary collaborations, and inter-institutional initiatives.
- Add value to existing Wellcome Trust investments in the Institution.

Applications are invited across a broad range of themes. Projects must meet the strategic priorities of the Oxford Wellcome Trust ISSF.

Details of the themes and strategic priorities can be found on the [strategy page](#) of the ISSF website.

Details of the fund, how to apply and the application form can be found on the [ISSF website](#). Each Division has a point of contact for the ISSF, any enquiries about the fund should be directed to your [Divisional Point of Contact](#) in the first instance.

Nuffield Oxford Hospitals Fund

Deadline: Sunday 31 January

NOHF is a registered charity and was originally funded by Lord Nuffield in 1937.

The objects of the charity are for:

“the raising of the standard of the Hospital or Hospitals concerned in order to assist the development and carrying on of the Oxford University Medical School”.

Applicants should note that research projects are not normally funded (other than through Oxfordshire Health Services Research Committee (OHSRC)).

The annual funds available are approximately £300,000 and bids are considered and grants awarded by the Trustees in May/June of each year. Recently grants have been awarded in the £20,000 to £40,000 range. The Trustees do not allocate grants for less than £5,000.

In 2013 and 2014 examples of grants awarded were for:

- Educational textbooks
- Medical simulators
- Seminar room refurbishment
- IT and training facilities to support medical education
- Equipment for student training
- Annual budget to the Oxfordshire Health Services Research Committee (OHSRC)

Details of how to apply and the application form can be found [here](#). The deadline for applications is **Sunday 31 January 2016**.

University of Oxford Jill and Herbert Hunt Travelling Scholarship 2016

Funding for University of Oxford Medical School graduates to support travel abroad for clinical study or research. Deadline: Friday 19 February

Applications are invited for the 2016 George Herbert Hunt Travelling Scholarship to support travel abroad for clinical study or research from graduates of the Oxford University Medical School.

The scholarship is of the value of about £4,000 and may be held with another award. This scholarship is offered in every second year.

Eligibility to apply:

Candidates must *either* have been admitted to the Degrees of Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of the University of Oxford *or* have passed the First Examination for the Degree of Bachelor of Medicine of the University and hold a medical degree of another British university qualifying him or her to practise medicine. Current medical students are not eligible to apply; an award can only be made to an Oxford medical graduate who fulfils the above criteria.

Candidates are required to submit:

- A letter of application outlining why they wish to apply for the scholarship and details of their proposed period of study, including an undertaking that, if elected, they will travel abroad for a period of at least one month for the purpose of clinical study or research in medicine;
- An estimate of the costs of the proposed period of clinical study or research;
- A statement of their academic record/CV;
- Two testimonials in support of the candidate/application.

The scholar will be required to complete his or her period of travel within twelve months from the date of election, and within a reasonable

period thereafter to submit to the Secretary of the Medical School for the approval of the electors a detailed report of his or her tenure of the scholarship. Payment of nine-tenths of the scholarship will be made shortly before the period of travel, and the remaining one-tenth following the approval of the report. The election will be made on 8 April 2016.

Applications should be sent to Mrs Laura Morgan, Medical School Office, Academic Centre, Level 2, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headington, Oxford, OX3 9DU. E-mail: laura.morgan@medsci.ox.ac.uk.

The closing date for applications will be **19 February 2016**.

Details can also be found on our website <http://www.medsci.ox.ac.uk/news/george-herbert-hunt-travelling-scholarship-now-accepting-applications>

Oxford – Celgene 2016 Translational Research Fellowships Launch Meeting

Tuesday 23 February, Kennedy Institute, Old Road Campus

Celgene and Oxford University have entered into an agreement to fund up to four, three year Translational Research Fellowships per annum. The goal of the programme is to provide a research and training interface for clinicians and research scientists to facilitate skills transfer between Oxford and Celgene and to combine resources to translate innovative science into new therapies. The first set of Fellowships for 2015 have been allocated, and suitable candidates have been appointed or are being sought for a start in 2016.

An Inaugural Symposium will be held on February 23 when many of the Celgene senior scientists will be in Oxford to describe Celgene core strengths and interests, and what they are seeking from Fellowship projects. This symposium is open for registration to any Oxford University researchers interested in the research partnership. There will be an opportunity to meet the Celgene scientists and to informally discuss possible projects. There are also a small number of slots available to give a 10 minute presentation about a project idea to the Celgene team for feedback prior to formal submission to the 2016 call which will be launched in March/April.

[More information and details on how to register \(login required\).](#)

Engagement Opportunities

Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 Call for Applications, Seed Funding available

Deadline: 12 noon, Friday 25 January

We're pleased to announce that the call for applications to take part in Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 as part of the University of Oxford's principal sponsorship scheme is now open, deadline noon 25 January 2016.

The University of Oxford is pleased to be a Principal Sponsor of Oxfordshire Science Festival 2016 (OSF). The festival is an excellent opportunity to showcase your research, inspire the younger generation, engage with the local community and raise debate on the impact of science on society. In 2016 the festival will take place from **Thursday 23 June to Sunday 3 July**.

As a Principal Sponsor of the OSF, the University has secured 15 stalls (which can be indoor or outdoor) and 7 programme slots for events, talks and debates that are being offered to researchers through this competitive process.

Researchers from all disciplines are invited to apply:

- a) to take part in the festival (e.g. hosting a stall, event, talk, debate, etc.)
- b) for small grants to support the development of research engagement activities to be delivered as part of the Oxfordshire Science Festival programme if required

All science and science-related research areas are welcomed and can include science, social science and exploring the societal impacts and history of science.

Full details about how to participate and the application form are on the [Oxford Sparks website](#).

FameLab is open!

The search is on for new voices in science communication. Oxford heats: 7pm Thursday 21 and Monday 25 January, St Aldate's Tavern
SPARKING A NEW GENERATION OF SCIENCE COMMUNICATORS

The search is on for new voices in science communication. **FameLab** is a global competition in science communication and we'd like **you** to get involved!

Can you explain a concept on science, mathematics or engineering in just **three minutes** without using any Powerpoint? If you enjoy talking about science and would like a taste of performing in front of a live audiences then maybe Famelab could be for you. Visit scienceoxford.com/live/sotalented/famelab-2016 for more information, to watch previous contestants, or to register for the Oxford heats hosted by **Science Oxford**! I'm also happy to chat, and you can contact Rowena at rowena@scienceoxford.com

Previous winners have gone on to travel the globe, deliver TED talks, inspire school children and feature on radio and TV.

No time to lose! –

Oxford heats: 7pm Thursday 21 and Monday 25 January, St Aldate's Tavern

Regional Final: 7pm Friday 18 March, the Glee Club

The winner of the Oxford regional final will get the chance to take part in a weekend Masterclass led by experts in media & communication skills, before vying for the title of FameLab UK champion at the National Final in April London. The FameLab UK winner will have the chance to take home £1,750 to further their career.

Contestants should be aged 21 years old and over, studying or working in science, technology, engineering and mathematics.



Bristol Science Film Festival and Competition

Submit a science film! Deadline Monday 1 February

The Bristol and Bath branch of the British Science Association are organising a science film festival and competition to be held during British Science Week.

They are looking for amateur film makers, including those with little or no experience, to submit short films of up to 10 minutes on a science theme that interests them. Deadline for submissions is 1 February 2016. Shortlisted entries will be screened in Bristol at the Cube Microplex on 20 March 2016 and there will be prizes for both local and national entries!

For more information about the competition and how to submit a film visit their website www.bristolsciencefilmfestival.info and see the [Facebook event](#).

STFC Public Engagement Fellowships

Funding available for researchers working in STFC research areas, deadline 25 February.

The 2016 call for STFC Fellowships in Public Engagement is now open for applications. **The call closes at 4.00pm on Thursday 25 February.**

The Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) currently supports a number of Public Engagement Fellows carrying out a range of activities.

We Want To

- Support the very best people in STFC's community to undertake extended programmes of the highest-quality, innovative public engagement as a core part of their job role.
- Create a network of highly-skilled practitioners of public engagement with STFC science who inspire and involve colleagues, students, and the public, in their activities.
- Highlight the achievements of STFC science and technology, demonstrating the excitement of research and the value of STEM to the UK.

Our Expectations of Our Fellows

- Delivering a prolonged, thematic programme of public engagement, covering multiple different events and activities during the lifetime of the fellowship.
- Raising the profile of public engagement within their host institution and professional community, including sharing best practice and developing new talent.
- Championing STFC science and technology, including the impact of science and technology on society.
- Regularly interacting with STFC's public engagement and communication teams, including participation in STFC networks, events, and advisory structures when requested.

For more details and how to apply [click here](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

Social Sciences and Humanities Research Ethics Committee

Volunteer external member sought, deadline 31 January.

The Social Sciences and Humanities Research Ethics Committee of the University of Oxford is seeking to appoint an external member to help review applications for ethics approval for research investigations in social sciences and humanities.

An external member is someone who is **not** currently employed by, or studying at, the University or its colleges in any capacity. Applicants should have an interest in contributing to ethical review and helping to ensure that the dignity, rights and welfare of all those involved in research is protected. Specific academic qualifications or ethical expertise are not necessary. Experience within commercial or public administration, community organisations, education, welfare services or the criminal justice system, whilst not exhaustive, could all be relevant. Above all, the desirable quality is an ability to look with objectivity at issues identified in a research proposal, to demonstrate sound judgement, the willingness and ability to comment regularly and promptly on ethics applications via email, and to attend termly ethics meetings. This is an unpaid post but reasonable travel costs will be reimbursed. Please note that members will therefore need to live within reasonable travel distance from Oxford.

Closing date: 31 January 2016.

Further information is available from www.admin.ox.ac.uk/curec/external.

A bit tense or worried?

The Department of Psychiatry are looking for healthy volunteers aged 18–50 years to take part in a study investigating how a single dose of the medication losartan affects learning and information processing, using simple computer tasks, EEG and MRI. Losartan is currently used to treat high blood pressure. However, it may also enhance the effectiveness of psychological therapies such as Cognitive–Behaviour Therapy. The study involves two appointments of about 5 hours in total.

For more information, please contact us (01865 223627/ caroline.nettekoven@psych.ox.ac.uk). You will be reimbursed for your time.

Version 2, 22/04/2015, MSD-IDREC-C3-2015-832



Vaccines Against Salmonella Typhi

You are invited to take part in a study to investigate how different vaccines prevent infection with Salmonella Typhi.



The study is being run by the Oxford Vaccine Group which is part of the University of Oxford.

If you are aged 18 to 60 yrs old and in good health then you may be eligible to take part in the study. We will provide reimbursement for your time, inconvenience and travel. The total study participation time is 13 to 15 months.

Before you decide whether you would like to take part, it is important for you to understand exactly what the study is about and what participation would involve.

If you would like further information please visit:

<http://trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/trials/vaccines-against-salmonella-typhi>

or contact us:

Telephone: 01865 857420

Email: info@ovg.ox.ac.uk

Vaccines Against Salmonella Typhi; 2014/08; Recruitment text short, REC reference 14/SC/1427, Version 1.0, Dated 20/Nov/2014

Healthy male volunteers needed for project investigating how your body handles sugars and fats

Researchers at the Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology and Metabolism (OCDEM) are looking for male volunteers aged 18–65 years to help us find out more about how steroids and insulin work in the body.

The purpose of this study is to see if an enzyme in the body (5- α reductase, 5 α R) is important in controlling how the body handles sugar and fat. In previous clinical studies, we have shown that the activity of 5 α R increases as you gain weight and decreases with weight loss.

We would therefore like to demonstrate the effect of inhibition 5 α R on the regulation of insulin, glucose and fat in the body using a drug that inhibits of 5 α R. We will also use a steroid hormone (prednisolone) for a short time to compare results to. Importantly, these drugs are already widely used in clinical practice today for other indications. These drugs are called Prednisolone, Dutasteride and Finasteride.

Participants will need to attend the OCDEM Clinical Research Unit at the Churchill Hospital three times over a period of 1–2 weeks. The first visit will be a short morning visit with two further visits which will take all day.

Participants will be compensated for their time and inconvenience at the completion of the study and will be refunded for all reasonable travel costs that result from taking part.

Contact

Dr Thomas Marjot, email tcru@ocdem.ox.ac.uk or on 01865 857202

Or

Professor.Jeremy.Tomlinson, Oxford Centre for Diabetes, Endocrinology & Metabolism, Tel: 01865 857359

Volunteers wanted! Research Project: Perceptual Capacity in the Classroom

- Do you have an autistic, or non-autistic child aged 6–13 years old?
- Do you live in or around Oxford or London?

Researchers at the UCL Institute of Education, in collaboration with Oxford researchers, are investigating the way in which people with and without autism pay attention to different things in the classroom. They are doing this research to help understand more about the special skills and abilities of individuals with Autism Spectrum Condition.

The research involves two fun activities that take less than an hour in total.

- The first involves performing a series of puzzles that involve identifying the matching image from a set of images, and explaining the meaning of a set of words.
- The second is a computer-presented task in which your child will watch and listen to someone telling a story and will then answer questions about it at the end.

The session can be done at a time and location that is convenient to you, and local travel expenses will be reimbursed.

If you and your child are interested in taking part, or would like more information, please email Susanna O'Brien on

susanna.obrien@seh.ox.ac.uk or Dr Anna Remington on a.remington@ioe.ac.uk.

Do you stutter?

Researchers at the Department of Experimental Psychology University of Oxford are seeking men who stutter for a Transcranial Direct Current Stimulation (tDCS) study.

Volunteers should be male, right-handed and aged 18–50 years.

We are interested in whether TDCS can improve speech fluency. The study lasts 2 months and involves several visits to receive TDCS and fluency training. The study also involves magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). We will reimburse volunteers for their time and cover reasonable travel expenses. If you are interested in participating in this study or have any questions please contact Jennifer Chesters (tel: (01865) 271 363, Email: jennifer.chesters@psy.ox.ac.uk)

Study Title: Enhancing speech fluency with non-invasive brain stimulation in Developmental Stuttering

Research Ethics Project Number: MSD-IDREC-C2-2014-013

Healthy volunteers aged 18–45 needed

For a study investigating the effects of the antidepressant Bupropion on the processing of emotions

If you are healthy with no history of a psychological disorder, please contact Annabel for more information:

annabel.walsh@psych.ox.ac.uk

Time and expenses will be reimbursed.

The study involves taking a single dose of Bupropion.

Central University Research Ethics Committee: MSD-IDREC-C3-2014-004

Towards the prevention of RSV: A major cause of infant death

A vaccine study involving healthy adults

You are invited to take part in a study investigating a new vaccine against Respiratory Syncytial Virus (RSV). The study is being run by the Oxford Vaccine Group which is part of the University of Oxford.



Please be in touch if you:

- **are aged 18 to 45 years old and in good health**
- **are able to attend visits at the Churchill Hospital, Oxford**
- **are interested in preventing a major cause of global infant deaths**

We will provide reimbursement for your time, inconvenience and travel. The total study participation time is 1 year.

Before you decide whether you would like to take part, it is important for you to understand exactly what the study is about and what participation would involve.

If you would like to read more about the study and see if you are eligible to take part, please go to

trials.ovg.ox.ac.uk/rsv or www.ovg.ox.ac.uk

Volunteers needed for study of the genetics of social brain function

We are looking for healthy volunteers to improve our understanding of how different genes affect social brain function. Certain genes are involved in the activity of chemicals in the brain – we want to know whether individuals with certain genes process social information in different ways. The study will take up to 1.5 hours of your time. You will be asked to come in for a 30-minute session to collect saliva for genetic analysis, answer questions about your social network, and have your hands digitally scanned (Session 1). You may also be asked to come back (Session 2) to lie still in an MRI scanner for 40 minutes and perform simple social cognitive tasks.

MRI is a type of brain scan that allows us to see how the brain is organised, processes information and performs skills like speech or memory. This scan is safe and does not involve any needles or injections.

Who are we looking for? Healthy individuals over 18 who do not currently use recreational drugs, drug replacement therapy (e.g. methadone), or medication for depression, psychosis or anxiety (Session 1); and who are right-handed, aged 18–45, do not have any metal in their head or body (except fillings) or any metallic implants, are not pregnant (Session 2).

If you are interested and would like more information please, go http://bit.do/genetics_research, or alternatively contact Rafael Wlodarski (Experimental Psychology) on rafael.wlodarski@psy.ox.ac.uk.

Participants will be reimbursed for their time.

Approved by the Oxford Ethics Committee, ref no. MSD-IDREC-C2-2015-026

Other Items of Interest

Frith Photography Prize

Oxford Medical School Gazette Photography Prize, deadline 14 February

Want a chance to win **£100/ £80/ £50?**

Why not enter this year's Frith Photography Prize for your chance to win great prizes. This year we are seeking entries on the theme '**TIME**'. We are looking for creative and imaginative interpretations of the theme.

For more information take a look online www.omsg-online.com

The competition is open to medical students, employees of the Medical Sciences Division and doctors at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

Get snapping for your chance to win! Deadline for submissions is **14 February 2016**.

Any questions get in touch with Oxford Medical School Gazette Editors

Claudia Snudden & Edward Matthews at editors@omsg-online.com

MedComms Careers event

Thursday 14 January, Medical Sciences Teaching Centre

This will be the tenth such event NetworkPharma have run in Oxford and they have more than proven the value now of gathering together the leading agencies to talk about opportunities in the business. If you're wondering whether the events are worthwhile, earlier this year [a host of comments](#) from individuals who had successfully made the transition into MedComms following these events.

The completed line-up of agencies in attendance include: **7.4 Limited, Ashfield Healthcare Communications, BioScience Communications Darwin Healthcare Communications, Fishawack Group, Highfield Communications, McCann Complete Medical Group, Oxford PharmaGenesis, Porterhouse Medical and The Prime Medical Group**. That means the opportunity for attendees to meet at least 30-40 MedComms specialists who are happy to chat about the business and career opportunities.

The event is entirely free of charge and anyone is welcome to attend no matter how many times they have done so before. The organisers advice to jobseekers is always very simple; "*Grab as many opportunities as you can to talk to as many people as you can. Whether you are looking to start now or in three years' time, the more you understand MedComms and the related businesses the more likely you will get the job that best suits you.*"

For more details and to register, please see <http://www.medcommsnetworking.com/oxford16.html>

People Are Messy

A new play about patient and public involvement in research. Wednesday 10 & Friday 12 February, JR Hospital

"This fabulous, entertaining and moving play goes to the heart of why involving patients and the public is so important to science and to society. It will appeal to audiences of all ages and will bring the issues to a whole new audience nationwide. I am very excited about its potential impact."

Simon Denegri, NIHR National Director for Patients and the Public

Date: Wednesday 10 February 2016 to Friday 12 February 2016, 14.00 for a 14.30 start

Venue: Tingewick Hall, Academic Block, John Radcliffe Hospital, Headley Way, Headington, Oxford, OX3 9DU

Booking: For further information and to book your free tickets [click here](#).

Why should the public have a say in what research gets funded and how? Surely doctors and researchers know best? Would you want to influence research tackling your own illness? And what impact does involving "lay" people have on questions being asked and money being spent?

People Are Messy, by award-winning playwright Judith Johnson, is supported by us and a Wellcome Trust Strategic Award. Devised and produced by Theatre of Debate, its primary aim is to engage young people aged 14+ in an informed debate about the practical, ethical and social issues around decision-making and health research.

The play, a comedy drama, explores the complexities of patient and public involvement through the eyes of two teenagers with very different ways of confronting a future made uncertain by a serious medical condition. Democracy, autonomy, personal responsibility and loss are all explored in this engaging, entertaining and accessible production.

People Are Messy has been researched and developed in partnership with an advisory group of experts including Simon Denegri, NIHR National Director for Patients and the Public and Maryrose Tarpey, Assistant Director of INVOLVE, led by Dr Sophie Petit-Zeman, our Director of Patient Involvement. Other advisors include patients, carers and people from the worlds of nursing, ethics, health experience research and public engagement, including those both supportive of and challenging to the principles of patient and public involvement.

This performance will come in the middle of the play's first national schools' tour, where it is supporting the achievement of attainment targets for Key Stage 3 and 4 across Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education, Biology, Citizenship, Science, 21st Century Science, English, Drama, Maths and Religious Studies.

Oxford 3Rs Research Day

Friday 26 February. Registration deadline Monday 1 February 2016.

The Medical Sciences Division and Department of Biomedical Services Oxford 3Rs Research Day will cover advances in reduction, refinement and replacement, and will feature both local and national speakers. This year there will be a focus on experimental design, including talks from Professor Malcolm Macleod (University of Edinburgh) and Dr Nathalie Percie du Sert (NC3Rs).

Date: Friday 26 February, 10.00 – 17.00

Venue: Department of Pharmacology, Lecture Theatre, Mansfield Road, Oxford OX1 3QT

Registration: To register your interest, please email oxhoadmin@bms.ox.ac.uk

Registration deadline : 01 February 2016



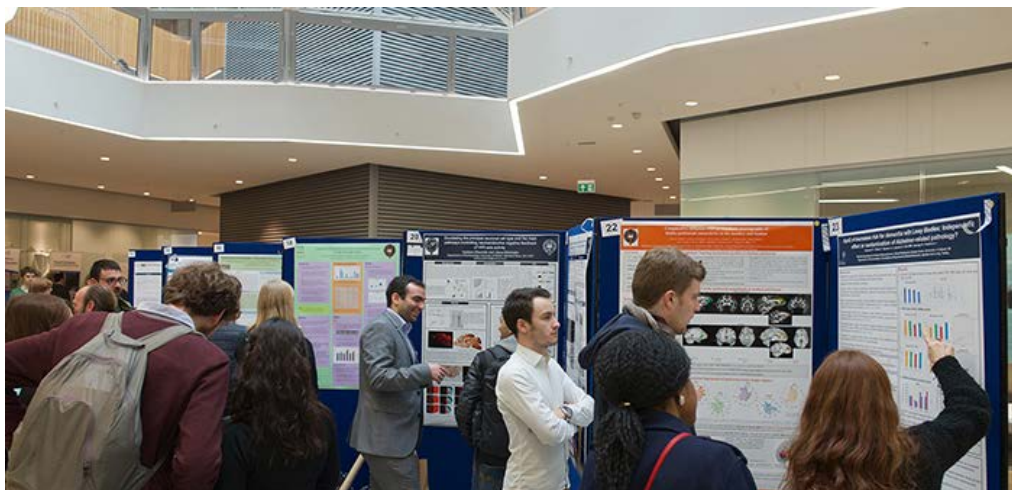
National Centre
for the Replacement
Refinement & Reduction
of Animals in Research



7th Annual Oxford Neuroscience Symposium

Wednesday 23 March

The 7th annual Oxford Neuroscience Symposium will be held on **Wednesday 23 March 2016**. The venue will, once again, be the Mathematical Institute which has the largest purpose-built lecture theatres and conference facilities in Oxford, with superb acoustics.



The symposium celebrates the breadth of Oxford's neuroscience research, and will include talks describing the latest developments from our research programmes and poster presentations from all career levels. The guest lecture will be given by Nobel laureate, Professor John O'Keefe from the Institute of Cognitive Neuroscience at UCL who will be talking on: 'The Hippocampal Cognitive Map: Past, Present and Future'.

Lunch will be provided along with a drinks reception afterwards from 17.30.

A lunchtime workshop 'A guide for young researchers to journal publishing' will be provided by Elsevier.

Further details and the programme can be found [here](#).

Register for free [here](#).

New website for Centre for Personalised Medicine

The Centre for Personalised Medicine is proud to unveil its redesigned website <http://www.well.ox.ac.uk/cpm/home>, the centre-piece of which is its video library. Here you can browse a range of podcast series, including talks by Sir John Bell, Sir John Chisholm, Eric Green, Nazneen Rahman, Munir Pirmohamed, Euan Ashley and Anne Wojcicki speaking at PMWC 2015, and presentations from a HERC and CPM joint venture on resource allocation in personalised medicine.

Just added to the website is the recent talk from Professor Steve Sturdy *The Genomic Revolution in Medicine: Historical Perspectives*, which can be found here: <http://www.well.ox.ac.uk/cpm/historical-perspectives-by-prof-steve-sturdy>.

Forthcoming CPM events will be videoed and new podcast series added to the website, so keep on coming back, even if you can't make an

event in person!

Future plans for the website will include regularly updated case studies of personalised medicine in action in Oxford. If you have any feedback, please email cpm@well.ox.ac.uk.

Ambitious Futures: Graduate programme for university leadership

Applications now open, deadline Wednesday 20 January

University of Oxford final year students are being given the opportunity to take part in Ambitious Futures, a graduate programme designed to train the university leaders of tomorrow. University administration can be a varied and rewarding career and this is a great way to start. To find out more and apply before 20 January 2016, visit the [Ambitious Futures website](#).



The Graduate Programme for University Leadership

AllTrials Campaign

Find out more, watch video, and sign the petition

AllTrials is a campaign to end the serious problem that only around half of all clinical trials ever conducted have reported results, and thousands more have never even been registered. Information on what was done and what was found in these trials could be lost forever to doctors and researchers, leading to bad treatment decisions, missed opportunities for new medicine, and trials being needlessly repeated. The AllTrials campaign is calling for every **clinical trial, past and present, to be registered and their results reported**. Please [watch the short campaign video](#) to hear why this matters to patients, researchers and physicians, and [sign the petition](#) today.



Cambridge Amgen Scholars Programme

Opportunity for undergraduate students, deadline Monday 1 February 2016.

The Amgen Scholars Programme at the University of Cambridge offers undergraduate students the opportunity to work alongside experienced faculty members, including some of the world's top academic scientists. Scholars will gain hands-on laboratory experience, and actively contribute to the advancement of science.

Applicants to the Amgen Scholars Programme in Cambridge must be **undergraduate students**:

- who are enrolled in colleges or universities in Europe, and
- who have not entered the final year of their bachelor's or first degree (or its equivalent) before participating in the programme.

Applicants must also:

- be able to demonstrate a strong record of academic performance
- have an interest in undertaking a PhD.

Further information about the programme can be found on the Amgen Scholars website: <http://amgenscholars.bio.cam.ac.uk/>

The Amgen Scholars programme is also run at four other universities in Europe and two in Japan, candidates can apply to any of these programmes. Further details of the other sites can be found here: <http://amgenscholars.com/>

The deadline for applications is 1 February 2016.